

REMARKS

This third Preliminary Amendment is submitted in order to place the application in proper form for examination, and to correct an error in presentation of the claims in the second-filed Preliminary Amendment submitted on September 20, 2006.

In the Preliminary Amendment filed September 20, 2006, the claims addressed the claims of the originally-filed PCT application. In fact, the claims were amended under Article 34, the Article 34 claims being of record in the present application.

The present Preliminary Amendment addresses the Article 34 claims by canceling all previously filed claims and reinstating the Article 34 claims, with the dependent claims arranged as single dependencies. It is respectfully submitted that this Third Preliminary Amendment be entered.

In view of the above amendment, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Robert W. Downs, Reg. No. 48,222 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

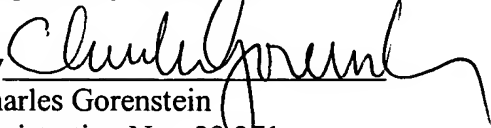
Application No. 10/582,168
Third Preliminary Amendment

Docket No.: 2936-0277PUS1

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: October 13, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Charles Gorenstein
Registration No.: 29,271
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP
8110 Gatehouse Road
Suite 100 East
P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000
Attorney for Applicant